Preparation of terylene-3,4:11,12-tetracarboximides by direct synthesis

**Abstract** 

5 A process for preparing terylene-3,4:11,12-tetracarboximides I

where the variables are each defined as follows:

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R, R' are each independently hydrogen; if desired substituted alkyl or cycloalkyl;

R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen or alkyl;

R<sup>2</sup> is hydrogen; alkyl; if desired substituted aryl or hetaryl,

15 by reacting a perylene-3,4-dicarboximide II

in the presence of a base-stable, high-boiling organic solvent and of an alkali metal or alkaline earth metal base, with a naphthalene-1,8-dicarboximide III

in which X is hydrogen, bromine or chlorine.